Settlement of river water disputes

3248. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(b) whether under the Water Dispute Act 1956, four or five tribunals were set up to settle water disputes of rivers like Godavari, Narmada, Krishna, Ravi, Beas and Kaveri etc.;

(c) what is the progress of settlement about these disputes; and

(d) what problems are being faced in this regard and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Godavari, Narmada and Krishna water disputes relating to sharing of waters of these rivers were referred to the tribunals under Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 in 1969. The Tribunals have submitted the final report to Central Government in 1980, 1979 and. 1976 respectively. Ravi and Beas water dispute and Cauvery water disputes were referred to the Tribunal, under the provisions of the said Act for adjudication in April, 1986 and June, 1990 respectively. Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal has submitted its report on 30.1.1987. The Central Government as well as the party States of Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab have sought explanation and guidance on certain points from the Tribunal under Section 5(3) of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956. Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal passed an interim order oh June 25, 1991 giving relief to State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The Central Government has published the interim order in the official gazette on 10.12.91 making it final and binding on the parties to the disputes. In pursuance of order of the Supreme Court dated 9.4.1997, the Central Government has framed a scheme under Section 6A of the said Act for giving effect to the interim order and all its related subsequent orders. The scheme consists of the Cauvery River Authority headed by the Prime Minister with the Chief Ministers of the basin States as its members. The Authority is assisted by a Monitoring Committee headed by the Secretary (Water Resources).